

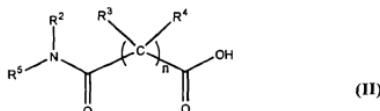
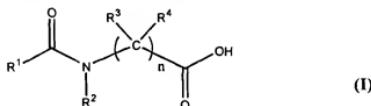
Amended Claims

Claims 1-12 (Canceled)

13. (Original) A process for preparing an amido phenyl ester salt comprising reacting in a reaction vessel the following:

- (i) an antioxidant-stabilized amido acid; and
- (ii) a phenyl alcohol salt, under conditions sufficient to form an amido phenyl ester salt,

wherein the antioxidant-stabilized amido acid is of a formula I or II



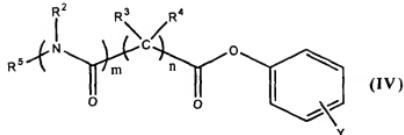
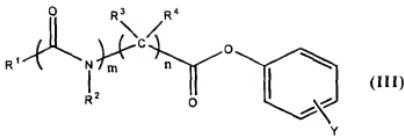
where  $R^1$  is selected from  $C_1-C_{22}$  alkyl,  $C_2-C_{22}$  alkenyl,  $C_2-C_{22}$  alkynyl,  $C_3-C_{22}$  cycloalkyl, and  $C_6-C_{14}$  aryl;

$R^2$  and  $R^5$  are each independently selected from hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{22}$  alkyl,  $C_2-C_{22}$  alkenyl,  $C_2-C_{22}$  alkynyl,  $C_3-C_{22}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_6-C_{14}$  aryl, and where in formula II,  $R^2$  and  $R^5$  can together with the nitrogen carrying them form a  $C_3-C_{10}$  heterocycle;

$R^3$  and  $R^4$  are each independently selected from hydrogen,  $C_1-C_{10}$  alkyl,  $C_2-C_{10}$  alkenyl,  $C_2-C_{10}$  alkynyl,  $C_3-C_{10}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_6-C_{10}$  aryl and where  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  can together with the carbon carrying them form a  $C_3-C_{10}$  cycloalkyl; and

$n$  is an integer from 0 to 20; and

wherein the amido phenyl ester salt is of formula (III) or (IV):



where Y is selected from  $\text{SO}_3^-\text{M}^+$ ,  $\text{CO}_2^-\text{M}^+$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^-\text{M}^+$ , and  $\text{N}^+(\text{R}^6)_3\text{X}$ ;

M is selected from hydrogen, ammonium and alkali metal atom;

$\text{R}^6$  in each instance is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl group; and,

X is a halide, hydroxide, methylsulfate, or acetate ion.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13, wherein the antioxidant-stabilized amido acid composition is in a liquid state, or a liquid melt state.

15. (Original) The process of claim 13, wherein the amido acid composition contains an antioxidant selected from 1,3,5-trimethyl-2,4,6-tris (3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxybenzyl) benzene, tetrakis(methylene (3,5-di-tert-butyl- 4-hydroxyhydrocinnamate)) methane and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT).

16. (Original) The process of claim 13, wherein the stabilizing effective amount of antioxidant ranges from about 0.001 to about 2% by weight.